

Frequently Asked Questions

Q - How do I file a complaint?

A - Request a Code Enforcement Complaint form. Complete the form with your Name, Address, Phone Number and Signature.

Q - Does Code Enforcement follow up on telephone or anonymous complaints?

A - No. All complaints must be on a completed Code Enforcement Complaint Form.

Q - How long does it take to correct a violation?

A - It can be as quick as a few weeks to several years depending on the complexity of the issues involved.

Q - Who is responsible for correcting code violations?

A - Ultimately it is the property owners responsibility, though the actual violator may be named as well.

Q - Does Code Enforcement follow up with complainants to keep them updated on the status?

A - No. Code violations are a matter between the county and violator(s). However some documents and information may be available by filing a public records request.

Most Common Code Violations.

- ♦ Junk Vehicles
- ♦ Building without proper permits
- ♦ Encroachment into sensitive areas
- ♦ Use of Recreational vehicles as a dwelling.
- ♦ Illegal Junk/Scrap yards



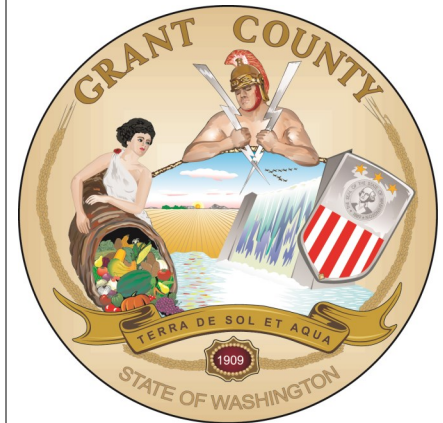
Grant County Planning Department Code Enforcement

PO Box 37 / 264 West Division
Ephrata, WA 98823

Phone: 509.754.2011 ext. 2514
Fax: 509.754.6097
E-mail: [npoplowski@grantcountywa.gov](mailto:npoplawski@grantcountywa.gov)



**GRANT COUNTY
CODE
ENFORCEMENT**



Information Guide

What is Code Enforcement?

Grant County Code Enforcement is a function of the county that enforces building and land use regulations as set forth in Grant County Code.

Code Enforcement will investigate complaints of unlawful or hazardous development and uses on private property. Code Enforcement Officers respond to reported code violations associated with zoning, housing, building, shorelines, and critical areas. The Code Enforcement workload is almost entirely driven by complaints of private citizens. Code Enforcement Officers do not proactively survey the county looking for violations.

If, as a property owner or tenant, you have been contacted by a Code Enforcement Officer due to a violation in any of the aforementioned areas, it is important for you to understand the Code Enforcement process. This pamphlet outlines that process, and also explains your choices and opportunities as a property owner or tenant.

This pamphlet also outlines all the potential steps in the life-cycle of a Code Enforcement case. It is important to understand that property owners/tenants may correct the violation at any given point in the process and therefore resolve the case. The first priority and preference is to work in partnership with property owners and tenants in the earliest stages of the Code Enforcement process in order to bring a property into compliance with the pertinent code(s).

How Does Code Enforcement Benefit the Community?

- ◆ Ensures safe living conditions.
- ◆ Safeguards the environment; protecting people, wildlife and livestock.
- ◆ Keeps land free from garbage and rubbish.
- ◆ Protects real estate values from unsightly and unsafe conditions and accumulation of junk vehicles.

I have received a Warning Notice... What Happens Next?

Your Next Actions

Read the notice, and correct the violations as indicated. If you need more time to complete the corrective actions follow the contact information at the bottom of the notice. We will work with you to achieve compliance.

Code Enforcements Next Actions

A site visit will be conducted at the end of the specified time frame to determine compliance. If compliance is achieved, the case will be closed. If there are unresolved issues and no contact has been made, a Citation or Notice of Violation may be issued, monetary penalties may be imposed, and the violation may be abated. Additionally, criminal charges may be filed.

Additional Questions? Need More Information?

Contact Grant County Code Enforcement

